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TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 0034  
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RUEATRS/DEPT OF TREASURY WASHINGTON DC PRIORITY  
RUYNAC/COMNAVFORJAPAN YOKOSUKA JA PRIORITY  
RHHMUNA/HQ USPACOM HONOLULU HI PRIORITY  
RHHMHBA/COMPACFLT PEARL HARBOR HI//N541// PRIORITY  
RHMFIUU/HQ PACAF HICKAM AFB HI//CC/PA// PRIORITY  
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INFO RUEHFK/AMCONSUL FUKUOKA 1856  
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RUEHNAG/AMCONSUL NAGOYA 9758  
RUEHKSO/AMCONSUL SAPPORO 2415  
RUEHOK/AMCONSUL OSAKA KOBE 5644  
RUEHBJ/AMEMBASSY BEIJING 7228  
RUEHMO/AMEMBASSY MOSCOW 2682  
RUEHUL/AMEMBASSY SEOUL 3241  
RUCNDT/USMISSION USUN NEW YORK 3281  
RHEHAAA/NSC WASHDC

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SIPDIS

STATE FOR I/RF, PA/PR/FPC/W, IIP/G/EA, EAP/PD, R/MR,  
EAP/J, EAP/P, PM;  
USTR FOR PUBLIC AFFAIRS OFFICE;  
TREASURY FOR OASIA/IMI;  
SECDEF FOR OASD/PA;  
CP BUTLER OKINAWA FOR AREA FIELD OFFICE;  
PACOM HONOLULU FOR PUBLIC DIPLOMACY ADVISOR

E.O. 12958: N/A

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SUBJECT: TOKYO MEDIA REACTION - SENATE HEARING FOR  
SECRETARY OF STATE-DESIGNATE CLINTON AND RUSSIA-UKRAINE  
PIPELINE ISSUE

¶1. LEAD STORIES: Most Thursday morning papers gave top  
play to the arrest on Wednesday of a former vice  
president of Nishimatsu Construction and three others  
on suspicion of smuggling 70 million yen into Japan  
from overseas.

¶2. "From Power to Wisdom" The liberal Asahi wrote in an  
editorial (1/15): "Secretary of State-designate Sen.  
Clinton stated 'America cannot solve the most pressing  
problems on our own, and the world cannot solve them  
without America.' In addition to the ongoing wars in  
Iraq and Afghanistan, the continuing threat posed by  
terrorists, and the spread of weapons of mass  
destruction, the senator cited climate change, pandemic  
diseases, and worldwide poverty as the major dangers  
the U.S. faces. This is a declaration of departure from  
the Bush administration's power-oriented diplomacy."

¶3. "Sen. Clinton Pledges Use of 'Smart Power'" The  
conservative Sankei stated in an editorial (1/15):  
"Sen. Clinton, who was designated as the next Secretary  
of State, said in a Senate confirmation hearing that  
she will use 'smart power' to regain the diplomatic  
power of the U.S.... We have hope for and will pay  
attention to her diplomacy to see whether this approach  
will be able to reconstruct a strong and trustworthy  
America."

¶4. "Russia Should Talk with Ukraine to Resume Gas  
Supply" The liberal Tokyo Shimbun editorialized (1/15):  
"Although Russia has resumed its supply of natural gas  
to Europe, the situation remains unpredictable, as  
Ukraine refused its transit of the Russian gas."

Russia's pressure on its neighbors by using its national resources as a tool triggered the problem... Moscow should look at the hardship in Europe and work to resume the gas supply by negotiating with Ukraine. That should be the option Russia should take as a resources power."

SCHIEFFER